



PA COUNCIL OF CHILDREN
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

A UNITED VOICE FOR PROVIDERS

January 24, 2025



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Join us for the PCCYFS Annual Conference, a premier two-day event offering valuable opportunities for professional development. Attendees can earn CEU credits while engaging in a variety of enriching activities, including a networking mixer, a captivating murder mystery dinner, and much more. Don't miss this chance to connect with industry professionals and advance your knowledge in the field.

FY 2025-26 Virtual One on One Technical Assistance Work Session Sign Ups

OCYF is pleased to announce an upcoming series of virtual one on one technical assistance work session opportunities for private placement service providers regarding the completion of the agency's placement services budget documentation for FY 2025-26. These sessions will allow agencies an opportunity to receive one on one technical assistance with an OCYF Per Diem Analyst to address any questions, challenges or concerns the provider may be experiencing as they complete their FY 2025-26 placement budget documentation.

Work sessions begin Tuesday, January 21st – Friday, February 14th, 2024, with various dates and times offered. As we have a limited number of slots available, please note that agencies may only sign up for **one session**. Sessions will be limited to one provider per one-hour session.

Below you will find a link that will direct you to dates and times available to sign up.

<https://calendly.com/ra-ocyfcontracts/60min>

1. Select a date
2. Select a time and confirm
3. Enter your details - name, e-mail, agency name and position title
4. Select "Confirm Event"

You will see a confirmation page indicating that a confirmation e-mail will be sent. Once you sign up, an OCYF reviewer will contact you directly with the confirmation and meeting information for your session. Sessions will be conducted utilizing Microsoft Teams.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the resource account at: ra-ocyfcontracts@pa.gov.

OCYF



The January 2025 Post on Policy was recently released from the Office of Children, Youth and Families.

Of note:

- "In the Works" section
 - Education Bulletin
 - Kin Specific Standards
 - LGBTQI+ Bulletin
 - Act 8 - Kayden's Law Bulletin
 - Act 111 of 2024 - Pregnant, laboring, or post partum children in Child Residential and Day Treatment Facilities Bulletin
 - Investigations in Camps Policy Clarification
- The second round of required VRA training is now available through E-Learn (hosted by the CWRC)
- Federal Legislative Updates (see attached)
- And much more!

OCYF Newsletter



[Read the latest PCCYFS Legislative Updates.](#)

Behavioral Health Updates

Carelon – Provider Alert: 04.24.01 – Core Data Set Depression Screening – Please review and complete the survey by January 31, 2025

The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has established various Core Data Set Measures that states must report to CMS. The Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) is therefore requiring Carelon Health of Pennsylvania to collect depression screening data and documented follow up as a result of the depression screening from providers in scope for this requirement via claims submission using various G codes. All five PA BH-MCOs collaborated to develop a single set of specifications for this depression screening reporting.

Providers should not report depression screening G codes for persons already diagnosed with depression or bipolar disorder. When a depression screen is conducted as part of diagnostic evaluation or other qualifying service, only one of the G codes for depression screening should be submitted on the claim with the qualifying service. G Codes for depression screening cannot be submitted as a standalone claim.

Carelon Health of Pennsylvania requests that providers in scope for this reporting, which are MH OP clinics, Psychologists, Psychiatrists and SUD OP clinics complete the below Survey Monkey using the link to assist the 5 BH MCO's to determine the effective date for enacting this requirement. Please complete the survey by January 31, 2025.

If you have questions, please contact our provider relations team at ProviderRelationsGeneralInbox@Carelon.com

Community Behavioral Health (CBH) – Provider Bulletin 25-01: Provider Manual Updates

Significant portions of and secondary documents related to the CBH Provider Manual have been updated. See the provider bulletin [HERE](#).

Quarterly Fiscal Meetings with OCYF Beginning in February!!

PCCYFS has continued in conversations with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Children, Youth & Family Services (OCYF) and the Pennsylvania Children and Youth Administrators (PCYA) associations regarding fiscal challenges and opportunities within the Pennsylvania child welfare system. To continue creating forums for communication and collaboration, PCCYFS is proud to announce OCYF will begin hosting quarterly virtual meetings for providers, counties and OCYF staff. These informational sessions will be driven by topics identified by counties and providers. PCCYFS members who have suggestions for agenda items should e-mail hbgoffice@pccyfs.org.

The 2025 dates/times are:

- Friday February 7th 10:00
- Friday April 4th 10:00
- Thursday June 26th 10:00
- Friday November 7th 11:00

Anyone who would like the OCYF meeting invitation forwarded to them with the link to access the meeting can e-mail hbgoffice@pccyfs.org!

Annual Contracting Training Follow-Up

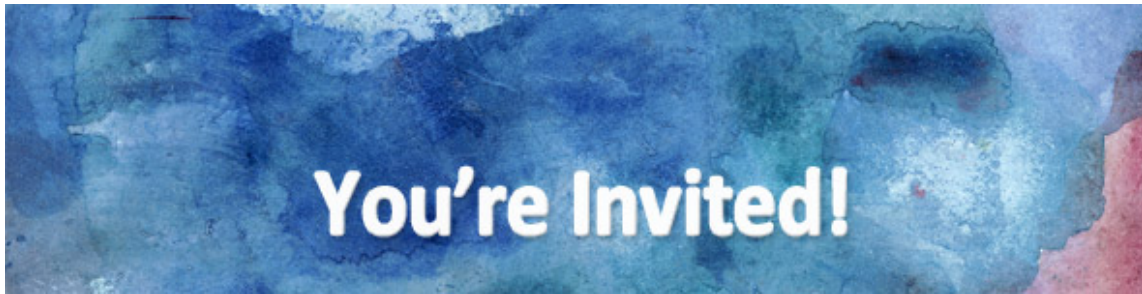
We want to thank all those who participated in the annual “Enhancing County and Provider Contract Discussion” training on January 16th. We had nearly 200 people attending and appreciate everyone’s participation. Thank you to our presenters from PCYA, Counties, OCYF, Providers and PCCYFS staff!

Useful information can be found on our website related to the training, including:

- Training PowerPoint
- Video Recording of the Training
- The “Budget Tool” Excel File
- Budget Tool Training Video
- FAQ’s for JPO (regarding the JPO process)
- And Several Resources Related to the Rate Methodology Taskforce

We look forward to continuing the conversations in the upcoming quarterly fiscal meetings with OCYF, PCYA, and PCCYFS. To be added to the state distribution list

to receive meeting details for these, please e-mail RA-OCYFContracts@pa.gov and request to be added to the distribution list. The first meeting is Friday February 7th!



The "Zoom in on Practice" series of virtual trainings offered by the SWAN Prime Contractor will focus on a wide variety of topics centered on permanency.

These sessions are being offered from January through March 2025. Please sign up!! Click on the name of the session for more information and to register.

1. February 5, 2025 - [Post-permanency Case Assessment](#)
 2. February 11, 2025 - [Post-permanency Case Advocacy/Case Management](#)
 3. February 19, 2025 - [Post-permanency Respite](#)
 4. February 20, 2025 - [Child Specific Recruitment: Role of the County](#)
 5. February 26, 2025 - [Post-permanency Support Group](#)
 6. March 7, 2025 - [Behavioral Interviewing and Strengths-Based Writing](#)
 7. March 14, 2025 - [SWAN and Permanency: A Collaborative Journey](#)
 8. March 18, 2025 - [Recruitment Strategy Review: Tips/Techniques for Finding Permanency](#)
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Attorney General-Elect Dave Sunday Cross Systems Collaboration Workgroup

In December of 2024, Attorney General-Elect Dave Sunday began to identify members of his Transition Committee. As previously announced, the Transition is being co-chaired by Bob Asher, Former Governor Tom Corbett, Elizabeth Preate Havey, John Verbanac and Dave White. Kyle King, incoming chief of staff, is serving as the director of the transition with Ryan DeMara and Ben Wren serving as co-directors. As a part of this transition, Attorney General-Elect Sunday has created a number of workgroups based on priority topic areas. Specifically, he established a *Cross System Collaboration: Behavioral Health, Substance Use Disorder, and Child Abuse Work Group*. The workgroup is co-chaired by Bev Mackareth, Former Secretary of the Department of Human Services and Mackereth Consulting; and John Wetzel, Former Secretary of the Department of Corrections and Founding Board Chair of Keystone Restituere Justice Center. Read more about the [transition team and this workgroup here](#).

2025 Diversity Summit: Call for Proposals

The Summit provides relevant diversity training that improves mental health service delivery and educational services. This free event is for providers and parents alike.

Workshop presenters will present 75-minute interactive workshops, using the Teams Webinar platform. Presenters will be supported with optional training in the platform prior to the webinar and will have the support of a Sarah Reed staff person acting as a proctor during the session.

Visit our [2024 Diversity Summit Recap](#) to orient yourself to the Summit.

Workshop Proposals are due by March 31, at 5 PM EST. The Diversity Summit is June 11, 2025.



Children's Center
CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Sarah A. Reed Children's Center
Alessi, Levan, Kebles Forum
VIRTUAL DIVERSITY SUMMIT
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025
Interested in presenting at this year's Diversity Summit?
Complete the proposal form by March 31st at 5pm.
CONNECT 4
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healthy futures

Upcoming PCCYFS Events

PCCYFS Delinquency and Diversion Services Workgroup

February 18, 2025 @ 9:30 a.m. - noon

See the full [PCCYFS calendar of meetings and events](#) and email hbgooffice@pccyfs.org with any questions.



PCCYFS Newsletter Archive

Looking for information from a previous PCCYFS newsletter? Visit the [PCCYFS Newsletter Archive](#) which is now live on pccyfs.org.

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OUR MISSION: PCCYFS is a leading, statewide membership organization serving as a united voice for our valued partners through education, data, resources and advocacy towards achieving a brighter future for children, youth and families.

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